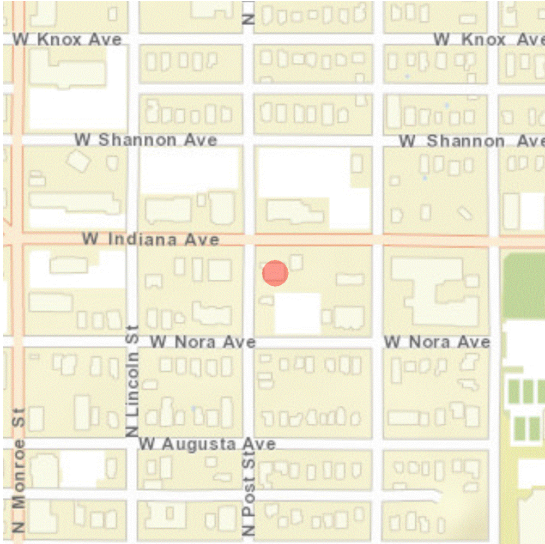


# Historic Property Report

Resource Name: Stephan Dental Clinic

Property ID: 156510

## Location



**Address:** 731 W INDIANA AVE, SPOKANE, WA 99205  
**Tax No/Parcel No:** 35073.6301  
**Plat/Block/Lot:** MOUNTAIN VU ADD L1-2B28  
**Geographic Areas:** Spokane County, SPOKANE NW Quadrangle, T25R43E07

## Information

**Number of stories:** N/A

### Construction Dates:

Construction Type	Year	Circa
Built Date	1950	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Historic Use:

Category	Subcategory
Health Care	Health Care - Medical Business/Office

### Historic Context:

Category
Architecture

### Architect/Engineer:

Category	Name or Company
Builder	Central Construction Company
Architect	McClure & Adkison

# Historic Property Report

Resource Name: Stephan Dental Clinic

Property ID: 156510

## Thematics:

## Local Registers and Districts

Name	Date Listed	Notes
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## Project History

Project Number, Organization, Project Name	Resource Inventory	SHPO Determination	SHPO Determined By, Determined Date
2011-06-00088, , Assessors Data Project: Spokane Commercial	6/1/2011	Not Determined	
2016-12-08751, , Spokane Mid-20th Century Modern Survey 2016	5/18/2017		

## Photos



Front (west) facade



North facade, entry detail



Front (north) facade, east end

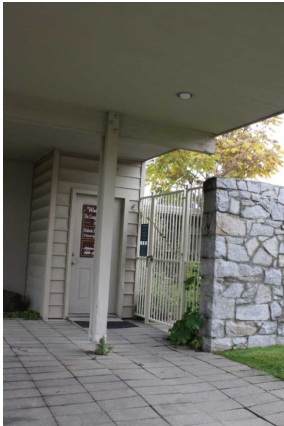


Entry detail

## Historic Property Report

Resource Name: Stephan Dental Clinic

Property ID: 156510



Entry detail, courtyard entry



Entry detail



Northwest corner and entry



West facade, south end



Southwest corner



Rear parking area, south facade



## Historic Property Report

Resource Name: Stephan Dental Clinic

Property ID: 156510



Southeast corner



Stucco cladding detail



Southwest corner

### Inventory Details - 5/18/2017

**Common name:** Stephan Dental Clinic  
**Date recorded:** 5/18/2017  
**Field Recorder:** Diana Painter  
**Field Site number:**  
**SHPO Determination**



# Historic Property Report

Resource Name: Stephan Dental Clinic

Property ID: 156510

## Detail Information

### Characteristics:

Category	Item
Foundation	Concrete - Poured
Form Type	Commercial
Roof Type	Flat with Eaves
Roof Material	Asphalt/Composition - Built Up
Cladding	Vinyl Siding
Structural System	Wood - Platform Frame
Plan	U-Shape

## Surveyor Opinion

Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places: No

Property is located in a potential historic district (National and/or local): No

Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local): No

**Significance narrative:** History. The Stephan Dental Clinic was developed by two brothers, Drs. Walter M. Stephan (1916-2003) and Robert J. Stephan (ca 1918-n.d.). The Stephan brothers were the sons of Dr. Walter H. Stephan and his wife Blythe, who lived in Dillon, Montana (there was also a younger sister, Betty). The elder Dr. Stephan was a physician and surgeon with a general medical practice. The brothers opened their practice in 1950, evidenced by an announcement in the Montana Standard that Robert J. Stephan and his wife would soon be re-locating to make their home in Spokane (August 18, 1950). Robert was married to W. Virginia Stephan and Walter was married to Marion E. Stephan. Walter moved to Bellevue in 1957, while Robert stayed in Spokane and maintained his practice with two other dentists, continuing to use the name Stephan & Stephan (city directories).

Architectural Context. This Modern professional office building shares similar qualities to other small-scale office buildings of the era. They often exhibit flat roofs, clerestory windows, and a juxtaposition of materials that emphasizes the building's composition. A rich assortment of materials that express color, texture and pattern also stands in for traditional architectural detailing and embellishment. The Stephan Dental Clinic building embodies the statements made in the introduction to the 2016 Washington State Commercial Architecture Context Statement, which is that form, not style, identifies post-World War II commercial buildings, and that understanding the forms, materials, and features of these buildings is critical to gain an understanding of them (Washington State Commercial Architecture, 1940-1975, 2016). The Spokane AIA's "A Selection of Contemporary Architecture in Spokane, Washington" recognized the building's design significance by noting, "One of the earliest expressions of modern architecture in Spokane" (AIA, 1967).

## Historic Property Report

Resource Name: Stephan Dental Clinic

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Architects McClure & Adkison. Royal A. McClure (1917-2006) and Thomas R. Adkison (1917-1986) established their Spokane firm in 1947. Both graduated from the University of Washington in 1941 with bachelor's degrees and went on to work for Seattle architect J. Lister Holmes, who was perhaps best known in the early 1940s as the chief architect for Seattle's 878-unit Yesler Terrace Defense Housing project (Ochsner, 2014:252).

The work of McClure & Adkison was widely published in many prestigious architectural publications of the day, including *Architectural Forum*, *Arts + Architecture*, and *Progressive Architecture*. From 1947 to 1966 they practiced throughout the state, with many university commissions. They also designed schools, hospitals, clinics and churches, particularly in the Spokane area and eastern Washington. One of their most highly visible commissions was the design of Spokane's U.S. Court House and Federal Building, for which they teamed up with Culler, Gale, Martell, Norrie & Davis, and Walker & McGough.

Both McClure and Adkison were active in the AIA and served on many local and regional committees and boards, including as charter members of the Planning Association of Washington. Adkison was elected to the AIA College of Fellows in 1978.

McClure, a Seattle native, received a Masters in Architecture from Harvard in 1946 and was later the recipient of the prestigious Arthur Wheelright Fellowship for travel in Europe, awarded in 1954-55 by Harvard for professional achievement. In addition to his design work, McClure was acting head of the University of Idaho's Department of Architecture in 1947-48 (Ochsner, 2014: 459). After 1966, McClure practiced on his own, and then as McClure/Nixon, beginning in 1970.

Tom Adkison, an Idaho native, went on to practice as Thomas R. Adkison after 1966. He was in charge of the Expo '74 World's Fair site plan and proposed a plan for a Spokane Metro Center on the north bank of the river (Spokane Skyline, 1992). His good humor and ability to work with people is credited, to a large degree, for the successful master planning of the Expo (Youngs, 1996). According to *Spokesman Review* journalist Dorothy Powers, writing in 1973, "Thomas R. Adkison tramps his 100 acre land-and-water site these days like a field general who knows he's winning" (Youngs, 1996:308).

### Physical description:

**Location and Setting.** The Stephan Dental Clinic is located along the busy east-west arterial of W Indiana Avenue, and is two blocks from the major intersection of N Monroe Street, W Northwest Blvd. and W Indiana Avenue. The immediate area in which the Stephan Dental Clinic is sited is dominated by commercial uses and churches, but beyond the major streets are older residential neighborhoods. Across the street to the north is the classical edifice, the Holy Temple Church of God in Christ; to its west is the First Assembly of God; and to its east, directly across from the Clinic, is the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Across the street to the west is St. Andrew's Court, a five-story, low-income housing project. Two blocks to the east, on the same side of the street, is North Central High School, which occupies a super block the size of eight residential blocks in this area. The Stephan Dental Clinic occupies a .28-acre parcel at the corner of W Indiana Avenue and N Post Street; it faces north, overlooking W Indiana. The lot to the east is lower than the subject lot and contains additional parking. A wide sidewalk finished in concrete pavers leads to the building from W Indiana Street. On the N Post side, the entry plaza extends to the sidewalk that surrounds the building on the west and north sides.

## Historic Property Report

Resource Name: Stephan Dental Clinic

Property ID: 156510

**Materials.** The wood-frame Stephan Dental Clinic has vinyl siding today, wood posts, a concrete foundation and built-up roof. The rear of the building is finished in stucco. A character-defining feature is the rubble stone wall located on the east side of the front façade and enclosing the courtyard on the west side. The entry patio is finished in concrete pavers.

**Massing and design.** The one-story Stephan Dental Clinic has a somewhat U-shaped footprint, with a courtyard toward the west side of the building that is not visible from the street. The post-and-beam structure has a flat roof and deep eaves on the north and south sides. The building is 2622 square feet in size, with a basement. A chimney, added later for a laboratory (City of Spokane, Pre-1993 Permit Archive), is located toward the rear of the building and displays the same stonework as the stone walls on the structure. The building is set back from W Indiana Avenue and has a small side yard on the east side. The rear yard, on the alley of the block, is occupied by a nine-car parking area. The site is not formally landscaped; most of the vegetation consists of lawn. The Modern office building was designed by architects McClure & Adkison and constructed in 1950.

**Front façade.** The front, north façade of the Stephan Dental Clinic is composed of six bays; two open bays on the west end, three bays with very large, fixed, paired windows in the center; and one bay finished in pale rubble stone to the east. The post-and-beam building is framed in delicate, split posts that straddle and support relatively small beams. The stone wall to the east extends to the ends of the eaves, which are finished tall fascia boards. The eave overhang on the main portion of the building is modest in this location. The area below the windows is finished in wide vinyl siding. A raised, concrete foundation is visible here. Behind the entry plaza, to the south, is a metal grill and gate that encloses the courtyard for the building, which appears to be unused. A secondary entry to the rear of the building is located within a vinyl-clad projection in the courtyard and features a contemporary anodized aluminum door.

**West side façade.** The west side of the parcel includes the entry plaza that is accessed from the sidewalk along N Post Street. This is framed by the split posts that support the roof in this location. The front entry at the end of the plaza includes a blank wall that is finished in stucco and a small projecting bay clad in vinyl siding with a contemporary door. From the plaza to the rear of the building is the large, rubble stone wall that encloses the courtyard and the rear of the west side façade of the building. Visible here is the roofline of this rear wing. The area between the top of the stone wall and the eaves is glazed.

**South rear façade.** The south side of the building is finished in stucco and has no eaves. Under the fascia on the west side are ganged windows of tinted glass. The stone wall on the west side of the building continues here with a low stone wall enclosing the west end of the parking area. A small addition, which appears to be a garbage enclosure, is connected to the building with a breezeway. It is clad in vinyl siding. A concrete stair parallel to the building accesses a basement.

**East side façade.** The east side façade of the building is finished in stucco. Deep eaves cover the ganged windows under the eaves, which display tinted glass of various colors.

## Historic Property Report

Resource Name: Stephan Dental Clinic

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Changes over time. The Stephan Dental Clinic has moderate-to-fair integrity. The character-defining dramatic window wall on the west, front façade is no longer extant; vinyl siding in a wide clapboard pattern has been placed where the lower windows were once located on this façade. The window wall allowed for a view of the post-and-beam structure itself, as well as the highly textured stone wall. The window wall also allowed for a view of the modern furniture and light fixtures in the waiting room area. It no doubt was a dramatic view for passing automobile traffic, and served as an advertisement in itself for the clinic. The original business sign, affixed to a board mounted on the westerly posts on the entry porch, was in keeping with the style of the building.

In addition to a loss of integrity, the building is suffering from deferred maintenance and poor maintenance choices. The building has been clad in vinyl siding. Stone masonry is breaking. The re-pointing for the masonry wall has been done with the wrong type of mortar and no doubt differs in appearance than it did originally. The wood posts need to be painted and the metal poles on which they are mounted are rusting. Concrete paving is heaving. A broken window on the back of the building is patched with plywood that is peeling and breaking away from the building. Other clerestory windows have been enclosed with solid panels. Metal coping on the top of stucco walls has been fitted poorly and doesn't appear to be protecting the building. Stucco finishes are breaking away, leaving the underlayment exposed. A number of air conditioning units have been inexpertly fit into clerestory window openings.

Landscape and site design. The site is not formally landscaped. Most of the areas around the building are planted in lawn. The short stone wall between the rear parking area and the west side yard is breaking away. The rear parking area is not maintained. The concrete pavers that finish the entry plaza and extend from the front sidewalk to the entry plaza are heaving and the surface is warped. Aerial photos show that once the rear parking lot was shaded with a large tree, but this is no longer present.





## Historic Property Report

Resource Name: Stephan Dental Clinic

Property ID: 156510

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### Bibliography:

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# Historic Property Report

Resource Name: Stephan Dental Clinic

Property ID: 156510

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## Inventory Details - 6/1/2011

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**Common name:**

**Date recorded:** 6/1/2011

**Field Recorder:** Artifacts Consulting, Inc.

**Field Site number:** 35073.6301

**SHPO Determination**

## Detail Information

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### Surveyor Opinion

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**Significance narrative:** Data included on this historic property inventory form (HPI) detail stemmed from County Assessor building records imported by the Washington State Department of Archaeology of Historic Preservation (DAHP) into WISAARD in 2011. This upload reduces data entry burden on community volunteers and historical societies participating in the survey and inventory of their communities. The intent of this project is directed specifically to facilitating community and public involvement in stewardship, increasing data accuracy, and providing a versatile planning tool to Certified Local Governments (CLGs).

Currently survey and inventory projects at the local level produce a field form for each property surveyed and include digital photographs. Volunteers doing the survey track down and manually enter all the owner, parcel, and legal data manually. Manual data entry diminishes accuracy and quantity of resources volunteers can survey. Recognizing this, DAHP uploaded building data for each Certified Local Government (CLG) on properties that were built in or before 1969 to provide an accurate and comprehensive baseline dataset. Volunteers doing survey work need only to verify data, add in photographs and extent of alterations and architectural style data, as well as expand upon the physical description and significance statement as new data is collected. For planning purposes, the attrition rate of properties built in or before 1969 can start to be measured to guide stewardship priorities.

Project methodology entailed use of the University of Washington's State Parcel Database (<http://depts.washington.edu/wagis/projects/parcels/development.php>) to provide the base parcel layer for CLGs. Filtering of building data collected from each county trimmed out all properties built after 1969, as well as all current, previously inventoried properties. Translation of building data descriptors to match fields in HPI allowed the data upload. Calculation of point locations utilized the center of each parcel. Data on this detail provides a snapshot of building information as of 2011. A detailed project methodology description resides with DAHP. Project team members: Historic Preservation Northwest, GeoEngineers, and Artifacts Consulting, Inc. (project lead).

**Physical description:** The building at 731 W Indiana Avenue, Spokane, is located in Spokane County. According to the county assessor, the structure was built in 1951 and is a medical business/office. The building is a 1-story structure.